

a non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain,
wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain
has:

- 1) a silver stearate content of 1 mol% or less per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt;
- 2) a length/width ratio of 1 to 9;
- 3) an aspect ratio of 1.1 to 30; and
- 4) an equivalent-sphere diameter of 0.05 to 1 μm .

Claim 2 (Amended) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a silver arachidate content of 6 mol% or less per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt.

Claim 3 (Amended) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a silver behenate content of 90 to 100 mol% per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt.

Claim 4 (Amended) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a silver behenate content of 95 to 100 mol% per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt.

a¹ Claim 5 (Amended) The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a silver behenate content of 97 to 100 mol% per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt.

Please add the following new claims:

12 --Claim 12. The heat-developable image recording material as claimed in claim 1, wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has a silver arachidate content of 3 mol% or less per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt.

13 Claim 13. A heat-developable image recording material comprising:

a support;

a photosensitive silver halide;

a reducing agent for a silver ion;

a binder; and

a non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain,

wherein the non-photosensitive organic silver salt grain has:

- 1) a silver stearate content of 1 mol% or less per mol of the non-photosensitive organic silver salt;
- 2) a length/width ratio of 1 to 9;
- 3) an aspect ratio of 1.1 to 30;